

Andrew Jackson to Amos Kendall, November 13, 1843, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

class=MsoNormal>TO AMOS KENDALL. 1

1 Cincinnati Commercial , Feb. 10, 1879.

Hermitage, November 13, 1843.

My dear Mr. Kendall: When I wrote you last I informed you, as I had lost by the burning of my House, my commission as Major Genl of 0266 242 the State of Tennessee, that I would apply to the Secretary of State for the record. (When appointed Major Genl the State composed one division only.) Strange as it may appear the Secretary of State writes me through Genl Armstrong, that he cannot find any record of my commission as Major Genl or the date of my resignation as Judge. My own recollection is that I was appointed Major Genl pending my Judgship, and that I resigned my Judicial appointment in 1799; but of this I am not positive, it may have been in 1800.

I have been anxious to furnish you the plan of the formation of the troops, with the position of Armstrong and the cannon, in the attack of the Indians Enotachopco creek, whilst the advance with the wounded was crossing it. Genl Armstrong was here on Saturday, and major Donelson promised to furnish the plan, a rough scetch being made out for him, but as yet has not sent to me. I suppose the cause, [is] my dear daughter Sarah had a very sick baby which died on Saturday night. It was a distressing scene, and the first time in my life that I witnessed the pangs of a mother being separated from a darling child from her breast; it was the most distressing scene I ever witnessed, and I hope never to witness

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a like occurrence. What made it more painful, her husband was absent at his place in Mississippi. It was one of the most interesting children of its age I ever saw.

I have sent a note to Major A. J. D for the paper alluded to; if I get it I will herewith enclose it.

I am much debilitated: scarcely able to write. But I cannot forbear to bring to your recollection the event of the mutiny of my volunteers at Ft. Stroder, Ten Island on Coosa, when I put it down by Capt Armstrong and the guards. Never was there more firmness displayed by twenty-two men; by the undaunted stand and position taken by Armstrong. I ordered him to occupy a small high in front of the line on which the volunteers were ordered to parade. It was promptly occupied by Armstrong and his guards whose march moved in their front ready to fire at the word. This placed it [in] my power to control the volunteers. I never thought that Eaton in his Book did Justice to Armstrong in this instance. What more praiseworthy or daring than a few risking all to quell a numerous and well organized mutiny? I bring it to your view that you may refer to Major Eaton's Book and see if proper merit has been bestowed on Armstrong for this meritorious and undaunted act. . . .